Docket No.: 09621/000L174-US0 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Takayuki Kuroda

Customer No.: 07278

Application No.: 10/009,879

Art Unit: 3722

Filed: November 13, 2001

Examiner: D. W. Howell

For: CHUCK DEVICE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated January 15, 2004 (Paper No. 12), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

MAR 1 6 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700